

PIONEER LOG CABIN  
MILTON, WISCONSIN

H.A.B.S.-WIS-18

HABS  
Wis  
53-MILT,  
1-

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN  
REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY  
ALEXANDER C. GUTH ~ DISTRICT OFFICER  
1249 NORTH FRANKLIN PLACE ~ MILWAUKEE, WIS.

"PIONEER LOG CABIN" (Residence)  
Milton, Rock County, Wisconsin

Joseph Goodrich Estate - Owner

Erected - 1837

No architect

Builder - James Pierce

The Log Cabin is used at the present time as a local museum which means that it is in good condition.

It sets on its original foundation.

The cabin is one story high with sort of a mezzanine floor.

Squarred logs were used in the entire construction which were clinched with plaster. The chimney and the fire place are of limestone quarried near by.

This cabin is as typical a backwoods product as can be found anywhere in the entire state. Together with the adjoining primitive fence and well head, it represents a true heritage of the formative period of Wisconsin.

The builder, no doubt, was a master craftsman, judging from the way the structure was put together. Primitive, though it be, it is an excellent piece of craftsmanship.

Joseph Goodrich, the owner, was an ardent abolition-

**DATA NOT COMPILED AND NOT GUARANTEED  
BY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS**

ist. Under the cabin and extending approximately 100 feet away from it, occurs a tunnel. Access to it was by way of a trap door in the cabin floor. This was used for secreting runaway slaves so that they might be hidden from bondage. When the tunnel was explored the first time in later years, the skeletons of five human beings were found. Whether these were negroes or the bodies of others who died during the great cholera plague of 1850, remains a mystery. In connection therewith, it is of interest to recall that this one room cabin with it's bedroom above, was the habitage of thirteen (13) people at one time. The cabin has had its ups and downs. At different periods, it was used as a store, cobbler's shop and post office.

The foregoing information was obtained from various old settlers residing in the community.

Alexander Carl Guth  
District Officer

DATA NOT COMPILED AND NOT GUARANTEED  
BY LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Apr 16 27 TWA